

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

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For Immediate Release

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BRADENTON MAN SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN UNREGISTERED SALE OF FIREARMS

Tampa, FL - United States District Judge Steven D. Merryday today sentenced WILLIAM PARDY, age 58, of Bradenton, Florida, to 12 months' and one day imprisonment, to be followed by a term of 3 years of supervised release. This defendant pled guilty on August 28, 2006 to engaging in the un-registered sale of firearms as well as the sale of a firearm to a convicted felon.

According to the indictment and the plea agreement, PARDY engaged in a series of sales of firearms to informants and undercover ATF and police agents during the period between March, 2005 and February, 2006. PARDY made these sales at various gun shows across the greater Tampa Bay area. On October 8, 2005, PARDY sold a Sig Sauer 9mm. semi-automatic pistol to a person who identified himself to PARDY as a convicted felon. PARDY made these sales and ran his firearms business even after having received a warning notice from the ATF in March, 2005 advising him not to engage in the regular and repeated sale of firearms without the required federal firearms dealer license.

This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). United States Attorney Paul I. Perez is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Tampa Division.